

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03204 061450Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----070868 061523Z /46

R 061330Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4484  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T BEIRUT 3204

EXDIS

STATE PLEASE PASS CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MILI MOPS LE IS SY  
SUBJ: SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION - PHALANGE VIEW

REF: STATE 148797

1. I DISCUSSED SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION WITH PIERRE AND AMINE GEMAYEL JULY 5 AND RAISED POSSIBILITY OF A CEASE-FIRE. SHAYKH PIERRE NEVER REALLY FOCUSED ON THE QUESTION, LAUNCHING INTO BROAD PRESENTATION HIS WELL-KNOWN VIEW ABOUT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY AND BELIEF THAT THERE CAN BE NO PEACE IN LEBANON UNTIL THE PALESTINIANS ARE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL. HE SAID LEBANON HAD ALREADY GONE THROUGH 60 CEASEFIRES AND PALESTINIANS SIMPLY COULD NOT BE TRUSTED. HE WAS THUS, BY IMPLICATION, NOT INTERESTED IN A CEASE-FIRE. FURTHER, HE SAID THAT PHALANGE HAD NO CONTROL OF EVENTS IN THE SOUTH; IN THIS RESPECT AMINE GEMAYEL OBSERVED THAT ALL EFFORTS BY THE LEBANESE FRONT FORCES IN THE BEIRUT AREA TO ESTABLISH  
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COMMUNICATIONS LINKS WITH THE LEBANESE FORCES IN THE SOUTH HAD FAILED. AMINE WAS MORE RESPONSIVE THAN HIS FATHER, HOWEVER, SAYING THAT IF THERE WAS A PULL-BACK OF PALESTINIAN FORCES AND IF AN INTERNATIONAL FORCE OR ARAB FORCE COULD OCCUPY THE VILLAGES THEY LEFT, THEN THE PHALANGE WOULD SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A CEASE-FIRE.

2. COMMENT: IN SHORT, I STRUCK OUT WITH SHAYKH PIERRE. WHILE AMINE'S VIEW IS MORE MODERATE, WHAT HE IS ASKING IS PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW BASHIR GEMAYEL, WHO REALLY CONTROLS THE PHALANGE MILITARY FORCES, HAS TO SAY ON THE SUBJECT. IT IS HIS VIEW THAT WILL COUNT MOST. EMBOFF WILL BE TALKING TO HIM NEXT FEW DAYS. I AM ALSO PLANNING TO LUNCH WITH CAMILLE CHAMOUN JULY 7 AND WILL SOUND HIM OUT ON PROPOSITION. JUDGING BY PAST PERFORMANCE, I THINK HE, LIKE GEMAYEL, WILL ADDUCE PALESTINIAN UNTRUSTWORTHINESS AS RATIONALE FOR NOT TAKING CEASE-FIRE PROPOSAL SERIOUSLY. HANI HASSAN, ARAFAT'S POLITICAL COUNSELOR, IS QUOTED BY PRESS THIS MORNING AS SAYING HE HOPED TO MEET CHAMOUN ON SUBJECT AND THAT COMBATTANTS WERE IN NEED OF LEADERS TO SHOW THEM WAY OUT OF IMPASSE. AT MOMENT, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH GEMAYEL AND CHAMOUN MAY PREFER IMPASSE.

PARKER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009